



*Brockton, Massachusetts*  
*"City of Champions"*  
*Linda M. Balzotti – Mayor*

June 8, 2010

TESTIMONY OF  
MAYOR LINDA M. BALZOTTI, CITY OF BROCKTON  
ON  
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S PUBLIC HEARING ON  
CERBERUS ACQUISITION OF CARITAS CHRISTI HEALTH CARE

My name is Linda Balzotti. As the mayor of the city of Brockton, I wish to welcome and thank the Attorney General and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health for holding this hearing on the proposed acquisition of the Caritas Good Samaritan Medical Center in the city.

Tonight, I'd like to lend my support, and speak in favor of this acquisition.

Brockton is an attractive place for businesses. Cerberus' investment in Good Samaritan Medical Center is further proof of this.

Cerberus' investment includes \$30 million for a new emergency room that will expand the size of the existing space by 117,000 square feet. It is expected to support 60,000 patient visits annually.

That financial support keeps a local asset, which has been in the city for more than four decades, LOCAL. Being around for that long makes Good Samaritan an essential part of the Brockton community that will only get better through this expansion.

Good Samaritan has been an active part of the community, and that will continue. Local cardiovascular and wellness screenings will continue. Community Resource Day, during which the hospital partners with approximately 25 local agencies to provide information to the community on a wide-range of topics will also be maintained.

But, providing services to the community is not Good Samaritan's only asset. As a corporation, Caritas, which owns six hospitals state-wide, is Massachusetts' 10<sup>th</sup> largest employer. 1,800 of those employees work in Brockton.

In addition, the expansion of the hospital's new emergency room, which began last month, and other capital improvements planned for other facilities across the state, will help generate jobs locally, putting residents to work.

Lastly, supporting this move to a for-profit model will also generate much-needed tax revenue for the city.

Municipalities across the state, and the nation, are facing tough fiscal decisions. Brockton is no different. An investment like the one Cerberus is poised to make in our community is one that will help not only our residents, but others, not just through health care and services, but by contributing to the local tax base.

For these reasons, I ask the Attorney General, and the Department of Public Health to support Cerberus' acquisition of Caritas Good Samaritan.

Thank you.